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Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-09 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-02 PRS-01

PA-01 USIA-06 /048 W
---------- 050298
R 141150Z MAR 75
FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
TO AMCONSUL KARACHI
SECSTATE WASHDC 3369
INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
FAA/BRUSSELS

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EO 11652:N/A
TAGS: EFIN, EAIR, PK
SUBJECT: PIA STATUS AND LINES OF DEVELOPMENT

REF; KARACHI 0442, 0425

1. TO COMPLETE ASSESSMENT OF PIA AND ASCERTAIN DEPLOYMENT FOURTH (AND FOLLOW-ON) DC-10-30 AIRCRAFT, PARTICULARLY AS CONDITIONED BY STATUS GOP'S AIR TRANSPORT AGREEMENTS, PARTICULARLY WITH CANADA, JAPAN, PRC, FRANCE, ALGERIA, UK AND MOROCCO, RCAA PLANS REVISIT KARACHI IMMEDIATELY SUBSEQUENT TO RETURN GOP DGCA RIZVI AND PIA MANAGING DIRECTOR ENVER JAMALL, PRESENTLY IN OTTAWA TO NEGOTIATE TRAFFIC RIGHTS TORONTO AND/OR MONTREAL FOR PIA (PROBABLY AS EXTENSION BEYOND NEW YORK).

2. SUBJECT CONFIRMATION REQUIRED APPOINTMENTS KARACHI,

RCAA PLANS VISIT MARCH 31 - APRIL 2 AND
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WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE CALL ON PIA CHAIRMAN NUR KHAN.

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3. RCAA NOTES DEPLOYMENT PRESENT FLEET THREE
DC-10-30'S KARACHI-CAIRO-FRANKFURT-PARIS-NEW YORK
TWO ROUND TRIPS WEEKLY (ONE ALL-CARGO ROUND TRIP
WEEKLY KARACHI-EUROPE-NEW YORK ALSO OPERATED WITH
707-340C); TOKYO-MANILA-BANGKOK-KARACHI, TWO
ROUND TRIPS WEEKLY (ADDITIONALLY TWO ROUND TRIP
SERVICES WEEKLY OPERATED WITH 707-340C/373C
TOKYO-PEKING-ISLAMABAD-KARACHI); KARACHI-TEHRAN-
EUROPE-LONDON, TWO ROUND TRIPS WEEKLY; ISLAMABAD-
TEHRAN-EUROPE-LONDON, TWO ROUND TRIPS WEEKLY;
KARACHI-ISLAMABAD FOUR ROUND TRIPS WEEKLY; AND
KARACHI-DUBAI, ONE ROUND TRIP WEEKLY; YIELDING
HIGHLY VIABLE DC-10-30 AVERAGE UTILIZATION RATE 10.2
HOURS PER AIRCRAFT PER DAY (BLOCK-TO-BLOCK).
IN LIGHT HEALTHY SYSTEM-WIDE INCREASES IN TRAFFIC,
PARTICULARLY 45PERCENT ON KARACHI-GULF RUTES, 35PERCENT ON
DOMESTIC ROUTES AND 12-15PERCENT ON ROUTES PAKISTAN-UK,
ACQUISITION FOURTH DC-10-30 FOR DEPLOYMENT FALL 1976
APPEARS TIMELY AND VIABLE. WE ALSO NOTE
MARSHALL KHAN'S PREVIOUS STATEMENTS TO PRESS QUOTED
AVIATION DAILY FEBRUARY 21 THAT SYSTEM REVENUES WILL
BE UP 43 PERCENT, PASSENGER TRAFFIC WILL BE UP 34PERCENT, AND
CARGO WILL BE UP 94 PERCENT FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUEN
30, 1975. CIC AND RCAA WILL VERIFY THESE FIGURES
DURING FORTHCOMING TRIP SINCE NUR KHAN AWAY FROM
KARACHI THIS PAST WEEK. HOWEVER ON BASIS PRE-
LIMINARY DATA ACQUIRED EARLIER THIS WEEK BY CIC
AND RCAA, PIA APPEARS TO HOLD VERY FAVORABLE
PROSPECTS FOR SYSTEM NET PROFIT YEAR ENDING
JUNE 30, 1975.

4. WITH REGARD TO PIA'S TECHNICAL COMPETENCE IN
HANDLING DC-10-30, WE NOTE DC-10-30 ONTIME DIS-
PATCH RELIABILITY RATE (WITHIN 15 MINUTES
OF SCHEDULED DEPARTURE) CLIMBING TOWARDS
80 PERCENT. AIRLINE IN-HOUSE CAPABILITY
PERFORM MAJOR OVERHAUL GECF-6-50C JET ENGINES
(POWERING DC-10-30'S) WILL BE ACHIEVED JUNE OR
JULY 1975. AIRLINE FLIGHT CREWS AND MAINTENANCE
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PERSONNEL APPEAR HIGHLY ENTHUSED WITH DC-10-30
WITH ONLY PERSISTENT MAINTENANCE PROBLEM DUE
MININOZZLE BOLTS IN HOT SECTIN OF CF-6-50C ENGINES.

5. INITIAL INDICATIONS AVAILABLE TO RCAA INDICATE
FOUTH DC-10-30 WILL BE DEPLOYED, AFTER INITIAL
HAJ OPERATIONS ISLAMABAD/KARACHI-SAUDI ARABIA, ON
MAJOR PIA EXPANSION AREA PAKISTAN-GULF. PIA'S PRESENT

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OPERATING FLEET NOW CONSISTS OF THREE DC-10-30'S, FOUR 707-340C'S (TWO ADDITIONAL RECENTLY SOLD TO JUGOSLOVENSKI AEROTRANSPORT-JAT), TWO 707-373C'S, ONE 720-040B (TWO OTHERS LEASED TO AIR MALTA), FOUR 720-047B'S, SIX F27'S (TWO OTHERS LEASED TO LIBYAN ARAB AIRLINES UNTIL JUNE 30, 1975). AIR-
INE TOTAL EMPLOYMENT STRENGTH APPROXIMATELY 13,000.
GODLEY

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